LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently amended) A method of communications for an interactive program guide (IPG), comprising:

receiving, by a session manager from a terminal, a demand-cast request message for a particular region of a particular interactive program guide (IPG) page, the particular region being one of a plurality of regions, the regions including a guide region, a video region, an icon region, and a program description region, the particular IPG page being one of a plurality of IPG pages;

sending, by the terminal to the session manager, a stream acquired message, when it is determined at the terminal that the particular region is currently received at the terminal;

sending, by the session manager to a transport stream generator, a stream requested message, when the particular region is not currently received at the terminal;

sending, by the session manager, to the transport stream generator, a stream acquired message, when the particular region is currently received at the terminal;

generating, by thea transport stream generator, a stream for the particular region, upon receiving the stream requested message from the session manager;

2-3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein demand-cast request message includes a plurality of fields and has a hierarchical structure, the fields including a first field that determines a particular format of remaining fields in the message format.

5.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the demand-cast request message includes a first field identifying the particular region in the particular IPG page.

438600-1

6.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the particular region is the guide region and the demand-cast request message includes a second field identifying a particular filter selected from among a plurality of filters.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the plurality of filters include one or more filters selected from the group consisting of pay per view (PPV), favorites, movies, kids, and sports filters.

8.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the demand-cast request message further includes a third field identifying the particular IPG page.

9.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the third field includes a fourth field indicative of a particular time slot selected from among a plurality of time slots, wherein the selected time slot corresponds to a time period covered by the particular IPG page.

10.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the third field further includes a fifth field indicative of the particular IPG page selected from the IPG pages available for the selected time slot.

11.   (Cancelled)

12.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the region is the video region and the demand-cast request message further includes a second field indicative of a particular type of video selected from among a plurality of video types.

13-28. (Cancelled)

438600-1

29.   (Withdrawn) A method for communication for an interactive delivery system, comprising:

partitioning, by a transport stream generator at a headend, a plurality of interactive program guide (IPG) pages into a plurality of regions, the regions including a guide region, a video region, an icon region, and a program description region;

encoding each region using slice-based encoding;

transmitting, from the transport stream generator to a plurality of terminals, each encoded region separately;

recombining the regions at each terminal to assemble each IPG page, some IPG pages being constructed by just replacing at least one region in an existing IPG page;

receiving a demand-cast request message including a region identifier to identify one of the regions of one of the IPG pages; and

transmitting, in response to the demand-cast request message, the requested region.

30.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the demand-cast request message further includes a subtype field, a time slot field, and a page offset field, the subtype field identifying a filter that is selected from the group consisting of: pay-per-view, favorites, movies, kids, sports, and music, the page offset field identifying a particular IPG page.

32.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the demand-cast request message is for a particular video for the video region.

33.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 32, wherein the particular video is an advertisement.

438600-1